

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10-17, 19, and 20 and newly added claims 22-30 are currently pending in this application. Claims 9, 18 and 21 are cancelled. Support for all amendments can be found in the specification and drawings as originally filed.

The specification was objected to for minor informalities. The specification was amended to address each of the Examiner's specific objections. Reconsideration of the objections to the specification is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5). Figures 1 and 4 are amended to include reference number "28", which identifies a shoulder part of the nozzle. Support for the changes to Figs. 1 and 4 can be found in the amended specification on page 6, lines 29-30. Figure 1 was also amended to correct the lead line for reference number "16". Approval of the modified drawings is requested.

The drawings further stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) for failing to illustrate the mould coated with Kapton™ and enclosed in a metal cage, as well as the control apparatus connected to a computer. Claims 18 and 21 reciting the above-mentioned features were cancelled. Reconsideration of the Examiner's drawing objections in this regard is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 2, 3, 14 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness.

Claim 18 was cancelled rendering the indefiniteness rejection of this claim moot. Claims 2 and 14 were amended to attend to the Examiner's indefiniteness rejection. Claim 3 depends from claim 2, which is now in independent form. Reconsideration of the Examiner's indefiniteness rejections is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 2 and 3 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has attended to the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejections and has rewritten claim 2 in independent form. Claim 3 depends from claim 2 and claims 2 and 3 should now be in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 8-12 and 18 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has rewritten claim 8 in independent form as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, claims 8-12 should now be in condition for allowance. Further, Applicant has added the allowable subject matter from claim 9 to independent claim 1. Independent claim 1 should now also be in condition for allowance. The dependency of claims 10 and 12 was changed from canceled claim 9 to amended independent claim 1. In view of the above amendments, claims 1-8 and 10-17, 19 and 20 should now be in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. §102 & §103 Rejections

Claims 1, 5-7, 13, 16, 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for anticipation by U.S. Patent No. 5,955,121 to Gellert et al. (hereinafter "the '121 patent"). Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over the '121 patent. Since amended independent claim 1 now contains the allowable subject matter previously set forth in claim 9, the Examiners' rejections over the '121 patent are now moot.

New Claims

New independent claim 22 includes the limitations of original claims 1 and claim 13. Independent claim 22 includes a similar limitation to the allowable subject matter set forth in canceled claim 9 and incorporated into independent claim 1. Independent claim 22 requires two nozzle parts defining transverse separating surfaces in an analogous manner to the manifold and nozzle which the Examiner found to be allowable in connection with cancelled claim 9. For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that independent claim 22 should be in condition for allowance. Claims 23-26 add further limitations to and depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 22 and are believed to be in condition for allowance for the foregoing reasons.

New claims 27 and 28 are directed to an injection-moulding device having at least a pair of heating elements. Claim 28 further defines the locations of the heating elements. Neither the '121 patent nor U.S. Patent No. 6,394,784 to Gellert et al. (hereinafter "the '784 patent") cited by the Examiner are believed to teach or suggest an injection moulding device having at least a pair of heating elements as specified in new claims 27 and 28. The '121 patent discloses a singular heating element that encircles the melt bore and does

not teach or suggest the multiple heating elements of claims 27 and 28. Moreover, the '121 patent does not teach or suggest the location of the heating elements as set forth in claim 28. The '784 patent cited by the Examiner does not cure the deficiencies of the '121 patent. The '784 patent discloses a singular heater assembly and does not teach or suggest at least a pair of heating elements. Therefore, claims 27 and 28 distinguish over the prior art and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

New claims 29 and 30 are directed to an injection moulding device having at least a pair of thermocouples. Claim 30 further defines the locations of the thermocouples. Neither the '121 patent nor the '784 patent alone or in combination teach or suggest an injection moulding device having at least a pair of thermocouples as specified in new claims 29 and 30. Claim 30 further defines the location of multiple thermocouples in each structural component of the injection moulding device, which is a limitation not taught or suggested by the '121 or the '784 patents. For the foregoing reasons, claims 29 and 30 distinguish over the prior art and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and objections and allowance of claims 1-8, 10-17, 19, 20 and 22-30 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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